(a) the areas identified in Orissa to promote horticulture; and

(b) the details of the financial assistance provided by National Horticulture Board to develop horticulture projects in the State during the last five year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Under the Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal and Hilly areas, the Districts of Keonjhar, Gajapati and Koraput have been identified for development of Horticulture.

(b) The details of financial assistance in the form of back ended capital investment subsidy provided by National Horticulture Board to develop horticulture projects in the State under its scheme, 'Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management[1] during the last five years, are given below:

(Rs. in crore)

SI. No.	Years	No, of projects	Amount of subsidy sanctioned
1.	2000-01	1	0.25
2.	2001-02	2	0.13
3.	2002-03	13	0.89
4.	2003-04	1	0.02
5.	2004-05	7	0.06
	TOWL	24	1.35

CEFS campaign for freedom from hunger

4648. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre for Environment and Food Security (CEFS) has launched a nationwide freedom from hungar campaign to mitigate suffering of 340 million people in the country, if so, whether it has been decided to observe year 2005 as a year of complete freedom from Hunger;

(b) whether outlining reasons for launching campaign, it has been pointed

out that more than 24,000 people die of hunger every day and nearly 78 per cent of them are women and children;

(c) whether it is also a fact that every third hungry person in the world is an Indian; and

(d) the details of schemes that have been prepared?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The CEFS or the Centre for Environment and Food Security is a Delhi based NGO founded in April 2001 by some eminent scholars, writers, environmentalists, scientists and activists.

As per information supplied by the CEFS, they have launched a Freedom from Hunger campaign to banish the scourge of hunger from India by bringing this issue in mainstream intellectual discourse and at the Centre of Public Policy. CEFS is not observing the year 2005 as a year of complete freedom from hunger.

(b) and (c) Yes, CEFS has pointed out that more than 24,000 people die of hunger everyday in the world and nearly 78% of them are women and children. They have furthermore stated that since almost one third of the hungry people of the world are living in India, it would be logical to assume that every third hungry person in the world is an Indian. Government does not share these perceptions on the basis of official records.

(d) As regards the details of the schemes, they have stated that they are a very small NGO with meager resources and, therefore, are not up to the task of preparing schemes and plans for the eradication of hunger from the country. Theri basic methodology consists in holding of lecture, workshops, seminars and conferences on the issue of food security all over India.

Stray cattle

4649. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of stray cattle in the country is increasing day by day and they are damaging the crops;

(b) if so, the details of Government's policy to control them;

(c) whether it is also a fact that when cows go dry they are left on the roads by their owners and they not only die during accidents but also endanger the lives of human beings; and